

**Senate File 274 - Reprinted**

SENATE FILE 274  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1047)

(As Amended and Passed by the Senate March 7, 2017)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to computer science education by providing  
2 for education standards by the state board of education,  
3 for instructor endorsements and authorizations issued by  
4 the board of educational examiners, for establishment of a  
5 computer science professional development incentive fund,  
6 and for the establishment of a computer science education  
7 work group.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph a, Code  
2 2017, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

3 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (4) The rules shall provide for the  
4 establishment of high-quality standards for computer science  
5 education taught by elementary, middle, and high schools,  
6 in accordance with the goal established under section  
7 284.6A, subsection 1, setting a foundation for personal and  
8 professional success in a high-technology, knowledge-based  
9 Iowa economy. Such rules shall be applicable only to school  
10 districts and accredited nonpublic schools receiving moneys  
11 from the computer science professional development incentive  
12 fund under section 284.6A, or from other funds administered by  
13 the department for the same purposes as specified in section  
14 284.6A, subsection 2.

15 Sec. 2. Section 272.2, Code 2017, is amended by adding the  
16 following new subsection:

17 NEW SUBSECTION. 20. Establish by rule endorsements and  
18 authorizations for computer science instruction, including  
19 traditional and nontraditional pathways for obtaining such  
20 endorsements or authorizations.

21 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. **284.6A Computer science professional**  
22 **development incentive fund — legislative findings.**

23 1. The general assembly finds and declares all of the  
24 following:

25 a. That instruction in high-quality computer science for  
26 elementary, middle school, and high school students establishes  
27 a foundation for personal and professional success in a  
28 high-technology, knowledge-based Iowa economy.

29 b. It is the goal of the general assembly that by July  
30 1, 2019, each accredited high school offer at least one  
31 high-quality computer science course, each accredited middle  
32 school offer instruction in exploratory computer science, and  
33 each accredited elementary school offer instruction in the  
34 basics of computer science.

35 c. It is the intent of the general assembly to appropriate

1 moneys for purposes of the computer science professional  
2 development incentive fund for the fiscal year beginning July  
3 1, 2018.

4 2. A computer science professional development incentive  
5 fund is established in the state treasury under the control  
6 of the department. The department may accept gifts, grants,  
7 bequests, and other private contributions, as well as state or  
8 federal moneys, for deposit in the fund. If state, federal,  
9 or private moneys deposited in the fund are sufficient, the  
10 department may disburse moneys contained in the fund for  
11 professional development activities or tuition reimbursement  
12 as follows:

13 a. A school district or accredited nonpublic school, or  
14 a collaborative of one or more school districts, accredited  
15 nonpublic schools, and area education agencies, may apply to  
16 the department, in the manner prescribed by the department, to  
17 receive moneys from the fund to provide proven professional  
18 development activities for Iowa teachers in the area of  
19 computer science education.

20 b. A school district or accredited nonpublic school  
21 may apply to the department, in the manner prescribed by  
22 the department, to receive moneys from the fund to provide  
23 tuition reimbursement for Iowa teachers seeking endorsements  
24 or authorizations for computer science under section 272.2,  
25 subsection 20.

26 3. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys in the computer  
27 science professional development incentive fund that remain  
28 unencumbered or unobligated at the close of the fiscal year  
29 shall not revert but shall remain available for expenditure  
30 for the purposes designated until the close of the succeeding  
31 fiscal year.

32 Sec. 4. COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION WORK GROUP.

33 1. The director of the department of education shall  
34 convene a computer science education work group to identify  
35 and recommend measures for incentivizing school districts and

1 accredited nonpublic schools to meet the following goals by the  
2 school year beginning July 1, 2019:

3     a. Offer at least one high-quality computer science course  
4 in each high school.

5     b. Offer instruction in exploratory computer science in  
6 each middle school.

7     c. Offer instruction in the basics of computer science in  
8 each elementary school.

9     2. The work group shall also develop recommendations that,  
10 at a minimum, address or identify the following:

11     a. How one or more high-quality computer science courses can  
12 satisfy high school graduation requirements for mathematics or  
13 science.

14     b. How one or more high-quality computer science courses can  
15 be integrated into a career and technical education pathway.

16     c. Multiple settings for the delivery of high-quality high  
17 school computer science courses, including traditional high  
18 school classes, concurrent enrollment classes, and online  
19 learning classes that include the opportunity for students to  
20 collaborate within a classroom setting.

21     d. Guidelines for creating a kindergarten through grade  
22 twelve career pathway in computer science, with an appropriate  
23 scope and sequence for high-quality computer science  
24 instruction at each such grade level.

25     e. How the computer science professional development  
26 incentive fund established under section 284.6A, if enacted  
27 by this Act, could be used to meet the goals set forth in  
28 subsection 1.

29     3. a. The membership of the work group shall represent  
30 kindergarten through grade twelve school districts and  
31 accredited nonpublic schools, higher education, business,  
32 labor, and other appropriate stakeholders.

33     b. The membership of the work group shall also include  
34 four members of the general assembly. The legislative members  
35 shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members of the work group,

1 with one member to be appointed by each of the following: the  
2 majority leader of the senate, the minority leader of the  
3 senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the  
4 minority leader of the house of representatives.

5 4. The work group shall submit its findings and  
6 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, in a  
7 report to the governor, the state board of education, and the  
8 general assembly by November 1, 2017.

9 Sec. 5. DIRECTIVE TO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION. The state  
10 board of education shall submit a notice of intended action to  
11 the administrative rules coordinator and the administrative  
12 code editor pursuant to section 17A.4, subsection 1, paragraph  
13 "a", not later than December 13, 2017, for the adoption of  
14 rules to implement section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph "a",  
15 subparagraph (4), as enacted in this Act.